

HAMLYN'S

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MENAGERIE MAGAZINE.

Nos. 4 & 5.—Vol. 6.

AUGUST & SEPTEMBER, 1920.

Price One Shilling.

CONTENTS.

Telegrams HAMLYN, LONDON DOCKS, LONDON."

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JOHN D. HAMLYN,

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Two famous talking birds, £15 and £20 each. List of words on application.

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£5 each. 5 Puff Adders (<i>Bitis arietans</i>) £5 each.	4 Cerastes Vipers (<i>Cerastes cornutus</i>)
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Two Stallions, very tame, good for display. £150 each.

ONE FEMALE BRINDLED GNU.

Very fine animal, sound condition, £100.

Indian Deer, Antelopes. Pair Blessboks.

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Hamlyn's Menagerie Magazine.

EDITED BY JOHN D. HAMLYN

Nos. 4 & 5.—Vol. 6.

LONDON, AUGUST & SEPTEMBER, 1920.

PRICE ONE SHILLING.

Notice.

The subscription for Vol. VI., 1920—21, is 10/- post free. Yearly subscriptions only received. Specimen copies can be sent post free on receipt of twelve penny stamps. Subscribers not receiving their Magazine should communicate at once with the Editor.

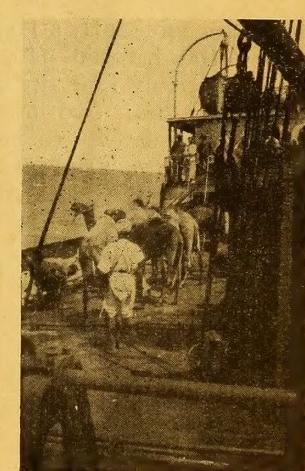
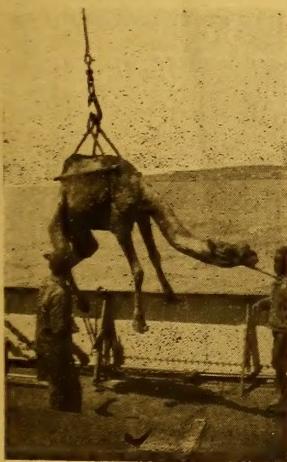
All letters to be addressed in future:—

JOHN D. HAMLYN,
221, St. George's Street, London Docks, E 1,
London.

Telephone, Avenue 4360.

Telegrams, Hamlyn, London Docks, London.

The Editor will be pleased to receive sporting articles and reminiscences, as well as items of news and reports of sport from all parts of the world. If stamped directed envelope be enclosed, the contributions will be returned if unsuitable.



The S.S. "Petworth" loading the seven Dromedaries off Megador, Morocco Coast.
These animals are now for sale, and deserve the consideration of all buyers.

The Trade.

By JOHN D. HAMLYN.

Once more I must ask the indulgence of my subscribers in issuing this Magazine for August and September combined. The S.S. "Petworth" arrived from Mogador with the

dromedaries, jackals, snakes, tortoises, and birds. The animals were detained in quarantine twenty-eight days. This rule applies to all ruminants lately. The animals are now free and can be delivered immediately.

Australian stocks have so far turned out unsatisfactory. Stocks must be accompanied by a trained man, otherwise the loss is dis-

National Zoological Park

astrous. I cannot attempt more importations unless accompanied. The season is now closed until December, consequently during September onwards prices will be reduced considerably.

Expenses, unfortunately, continue to increase, which will cause importers to be very careful in bringing over large consignments. The French dealers still ask exorbitant prices, the only remedy is not to purchase, the extraordinary prices asked for Australian and Indian stock absolutely prohibit all purchase.

Polar Bears have arrived in Northern Ports lately. I was offered fifteen, but when I discovered they had been offered all over the world, I declined to purchase at any price. Norwegian owners will sooner or later have to pay the penalty for offering to Zoological Gardens, for having supplied these, there is nothing else for the dealer to do, but to decline purchasing. Polar Bears will then be sold at £15 and £20 each, the same as in 1914.

August is always an "off" month. It has been very quiet all round. Dealers are looking forward to a good September and onwards. Small stocks are constantly arriving. Liverpool seems to be the favored Shipping Port at present. Some really fine stocks have arrived there during the last two months. Reports from the travelling shows are not encouraging. They all had a wonderful season last year. The travellers had the time of their lives in 1919. This year has been very bad all round. We all sympathise with the Sanger family over their misfortune at Taunton, but it was the first on record; and, I am pleased to know they were absolved from all blame.

The Travellers Season is now drawing to close. I wish them a better winter season, which I very much doubt.

JOHN D. HAMILYN.

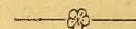


BIRTH OF TIGER CUBS IN CAPTIVITY.

An interesting account of the birth of three Tiger Cubs—2 males, 1 female—has been given me by Mr. Jack Bostock, Wombwell's Menagerie. This took place at Chard, Somerset, on the 28th July last. It is so far as I know the first litter of Tiger Cubs to be born in any travelling Menagerie. The Cubs are doing wonderfully well. Mr. Bostock is exceedingly proud of his youngsters. He prizes

them greatly. I wish him every success in rearing them. He also had two litters of Lion Cubs, two each litter; unfortunately, one litter died, the others are doing well.

The animals in this vast travelling collection are in first-class condition, and reflect great credit on the enterprising proprietor.



THE BIGGEST GAME HUNT.

The South African papers state that the greatest big game drive in the history of South Africa is being relentlessly continued.

Five hundred hunters and experienced shots are taking part, aided by an army of 5,000 natives acting as beaters.

A HUGE "BEAT."

If you can imagine 6,000 guns and beaters starting from the southern coast of Cornwall to drive the counties of Cornwall and Devon in simultaneous movement you have some idea of the extent of this great battue of game.

But in Zululand there are no hedges or ditches or fences, but only the endless sweep of veldt and bush land.

The purpose of the drive is not sport, but self-preservation. The big game have multiplied in recent years in the Zululand game reserve, where only limited shooting is allowed, and in time of drought have invaded the settled lands further south, bringing with them the dreaded tsetse fly, which is the source of nagana disease in cattle.

TO FIGHT DISEASE.

Hundreds of head of cattle of the settlers have perished, and the disease is spreading.

The hunters, as they swept through the luxurious N'tambana Valley, had evidence of the ravages of nagana in the presence of the emaciated stock, with bones protruding from the shrivelled skin and visibly wasting away, but always feeding, for nagana cattle suffer from eternal hunger.

ZULU KNOWLEDGE.

The Zulus in Cetewayo's days, though ignorant of the discoveries of modern scientists, always associated nagana with the presence of

game, and whenever the latter appeared large impis were mobilised to drive the game across the Umfolosi river, and so in this primitive way the spread of the disease was checked.

A VELDT FIRE.

The Government has not authorised the drive to invade the game reserve north of the Umfolosi, but the hunters and settlers have revolted against the prohibition, and intend to shoot in the protected area, killing every sort of game sighted except the very rare white rhinoceros.

On Saturday night a great grass fire swept the valley, and on Sunday morning the whole line of the drive moved forward.



Cardiff and Newport Ornithological Association.

I have received the following particulars of the above Association.

It is deserving of the support of the "Fancy." Full particulars can be obtained from the Manager, 19, Baneswell Road, Newport, Mon.: —

FIRST ANNUAL SHOW OF CAGE BIRDS.

Open to the World.

On October 29th and 30th, 1920, at the Temperance Hall, Newport.

Cup Trophies and Cash Specials to the value of £500.

ALL Profits will be given to the Royal Gwent Hospital.

We particularly wish to point out, that, apart from the fact that locally the fancy is on the increase, and the new enthusiasts and buyers of birds, etc., are large wage earners; the Royal Gwent Hospital, especially devoted to the care and entertainment of wounded men from all part of England, a large share of their funds and accommodation. We hope in the interests of this project you will see your way to supporting the venture in aid of the Institution.

The American Bison Society.

Report of the Secretary—Continued.

The only other place in Canada where antelope are to be found is in the Provinces of Saskatchewan. These are very few in number and widely scattered.

On my return east I made a stop at Dixon, Montana, to visit the Montana Bison Range. Warden Hodges having been notified in advance was on hand to meet me and gave me a most cordial welcome. The following day we rode over the range in search of the buffalo. The sky was overcast and soon a cold drizzly rain was driving against us in fitful blasts. However, it did not dampen my spirits or cool my enthusiasm for this wonderful game preserve. As we rode along over the old Indian trail near Mission Creek, suddenly the air was full of ducks; hundreds of them flew in every direction. This was a fine sight, and they seemed to realize there was no danger, as they soon returned to the creek after we had passed. Over near the hills to the right, we noticed a number of antelope, and farther on one or two more. These appeared to be fine specimens, and if the coyotes can be kept in check, there is every reason to believe that in a few years this preserve will have a good-size band of antelope. About a mile farther on we noticed in the distance a number of dark objects in a depression between two hills, so keeping out of sight as much as possible we rode in that direction. Presently, on mounting a hill, we discovered a herd of buffalo about half a mile distant. Most of them were lying down, but as we descended the hill and rode slowly towards them they were soon on their feet watching us closely with every indication of leaving at a moments notice. They seemed to recognize Mr. Hodge's voice and bald-face pony, and would only make short runs. In the meantime we edged up closer until near enough to have a fine view of the herd, about one hundred and mostly cows. Among them was a calf a day or two old. Its tawny hide was a conspicuous object among the dark robes of the others. These buffalo were fat and in grand condition, very active and quick in their movements, so noticeably different from the dull sleepy looking individuals confined in our zoos. Here, free and unrestrained, feeding on the rich grasses which cover the hills to the very summit and furnishing them with food throughout the entire

year, they have amply repaid the efforts put forth for their preservation. No one need longer deplore the fact that they were born too late to see the wild game which abounded in this country in the days of their forefathers, because on the Montana Bison Range can be seen the same picture of wild life as in former days. Here on this wonderful game preserve one can travel over the old historic Indian trail and encounter herds of buffalo feeding along the foot-hills, bands of antelope standing like statues curiously watching you or flying like a cloud in the distance, herds of elks high up on the hills, and deer in the open glades or along the creek where the wild ducks nest and gather in great flocks. Here all these creatures can be seen in their primitive wilderness unrestrained and in their natural setting.

Down near Mission Creek, just below the warden's house, stands a relic of former days. Some years before the Bison Range was established, an Indian built himself a cabin of logs and lived in it until the Reservation was opened for settlement. It is in good condition and should be preserved, as it is of historic value and will be an interesting object to those who visit the Bison Range. It has been suggested a number of times that it be torn down, but I strongly urged Mr Hodges to preserve it and use it for storing and exhibiting such curiosities as might be found on the game preserve that would be of interest to visitors.

From Dixon I went to Hot Springs, South Dakota, and motored out to the Wind Cave National Park, some nine or ten miles from Hot Springs. As we entered the park and moved along the road that runs through it I noticed a band of antelope in the distance off to the left, and managed to count sixteen. A short ride further on brought us on to headquarters. Warden Chambers was away but Mr. Brazell, Superintendent of the park, very kindly undertook to show me around. Fortunately, we found the buffalo lying down close to the fence near the road. This afforded a good opportunity for a close-up inspection of the herd, which is not often obtained by persons visiting the park or travellers along the road. The buffalo were fat and fine, not a poor one among them, a few of them got up as we approached the fence, but they apparently were not alarmed, although it was evident they were on the alert and prepared for instant action, but otherwise they appeared as tame as domestic cattle. This is an ideal location for a game

preserve. The rolling hills are covered with a thick mat of native grasses, and the Pine Ridge adds picturesqueness to the scenery. There is also in this preserve a fine herd of elk, twenty-one antelope, some white-tail deer and a few mule deer. The people in Hot Springs are proud of this fine game preserve, and the tourists who visit the park are increasing in number each year.

Leaving Hot Springs, I proceeded on to Valentine, Nebraska, it being the nearest point on the railroad to the Niobrara Reserve, which is located some four or five miles north of that place. This reserve is part of the old Niobrara Military Reserve and is on historic ground, as it includes the site of Fort Niobrara. The Superintendent, Mr. Fred M. Dille, has his headquarters in one of the buildings in officers' row, on the North side of the Niobrara River, which runs east and west through the reserve, are the hills; to the south, the undulating sand hills, covered with a thick mat of grass, stretch away like a billowy sea as far as the eye can reach. This would make an exceptionally fine antelope range. In former years it was the original home of the antelope and buffalo, countless thousands of them ranged over the territory now included within this reserve, therefore it would be a good plan to place here any antelope that it might be possible to obtain. The fine condition of the buffalo show that their natural feed and surroundings are all that is required to produce such perfect specimens. It is an inspiring sight to see these buffalo feeding over the same hills and on the same kind of grasses as did their progenitors many years ago. This herd has increased from the original six to twenty-one (21) and have outgrown its present limited range which necessitates early and continuous winter feeding. This could be avoided, or at least very largely reduced, by placing the buffalo on the north side of the river. The location is an ideal one for a buffalo range, having quite some advantages over their present quarters. It is well grassed and has a fine meadow extending back some distance from the river. The numerous breaks in the hills, together with a southern exposure would afford ample protection in winter, and if sufficient territory is included it would considerably reduce the expense of winter feeding.

Since the appearance among the buffalo in the Yellowstone Park herd of a disease known as hemorrhagic septicemia whereby a number of the animals died in 1911, measures have been

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JOHN D. HAMILYN,
Dealer in Wild Animals, Birds, Reptiles and Fish.
221, ST. GEORGES STREET, LONDON, E. I.
(Opposite London Docks).

13th September, 1920.

Dear Sir (or Madam),

Through a mishap to the S.S. "Saxon," this Consignment has been delayed.

They have been transhipped to the S.S. "Grantully Castle," which is expected here on the 23rd September.

1 Bush baby £5, 1 Hyaena Cub, £20, 2 Leopard Cubs, £25 each, 3 Chacma Baboons from £12 to £20, Francolins, Rosy-faced Lovebirds, Zosterops, Bulbuls, Coly Capensis, Shrikes, Fly Catchers, Whydahs, Sunbirds.

Please note, all these Birds will be sold at very reasonable prices. Buyers are advised to wait for this consignment before going elsewhere.

Another Consignment following this will be—

3 Cape Hunting Dogs, 1 male, 2 females 8 months old (*Lycoon pictus*), £35 each. 4 Common Duikers (*Cephalophus grimmii*) at £20 each. 2 Blue Duikers (*Cephalophus monticola*) £20 each. With Sunbirds, Amethysts, and Thrushes. Wait for this arrival.

Please note Reduction in Prices.

- 1 Brindled Gnu (*Connochaetus taurina*) female, in magnificent adult condition, guaranteed perfect, only £100
- 1 pair Blessbok Antelopes (*Damaliscus albifrons*) for £65
- 1 Indian Blackbuck, male, (*Antilope cervicapra*) £20
- 1 „ Axis, male, (*Cervoris axis*) £25
- 5 African Squirrels (*Xerus setosus*) each 30/-
- 4 Rock Rabbits (*Hyrax Capensis*) each £4
- 2 Chapmans Zebra, very tame, £150 each

- 1 Llama, brown, female (*Lama peruviana*) £30
 1 " black and white, female, adult £30
 1 " " " half-grown £30
 All three splendid animals. Perfectly tame, grand show.
 4 Algerian Pigmy Donkeys, 3 males, 1 female, each, £15
 3 Sphinx Baboons, males, each, £6
 1 African Porcupine (*Hystrix cristata*) very fine large animal, £15
 3 African Jackals, from Mogador, each, £8
 4 " Vervet Monkeys, very fine (*Cercopithecus lalandii*) each £4
 1 very large Macaque Monkey, male (*Macacus cynomolgus*) £6
 1 English Hedgehog, 5/-

Dromedaries from Mogador.

- 3 males only left, nice young animals, each, £65
 (*Camelus dromedarius*)

Claw-footed Frogs (*Xenopus laevis*) each, 10/-
 Ten sent carriage paid for £3

Giant Zonures (*Zonurus derbianus*) each 10/-
 Ten sent free for £3

1 Mogador Hunting Falcon for £5
 A trained full feathered bird.

4 Starred Lizards (*Agamia stellis*) each £2

11 Algerian Skinks (*Eunaecus algeriensis*) each £1

2 Cerastes Vipers, very rare, each £4

6 Horsestoe Snakes, (*Zamenis hippocrepis*) each £2

7 Lacertine Snakes (*Coelopeltis mouspessulana*) each £2

2 Wrinkled Terrapins (*Chrysemys scriptanigra*) each £2

1 Leopard Tortoise (*Testudo pardalis*) £2

1 Biebrons Frog (*Rana bibroni*) £1

3 Squared mouthed Toads (*Bufo regularis*) each £1

7 Texas Rattlesnakes (*Cratolus duissus*) each £4
 or £30 the lot, these are very fine.

2 Hispid Agamas (*Agama hispida*) each 20/-

2 Tree-streaked Skink (*Mabuia trittitata*) each 20/-

1 Striated Skink (" *, striata*) 20/-

2 Radiated Tortoises, each £2

African Land Tortoise 5/- each, carriage paid, or 50/- per dozen.

White Swans, this years birds, each 30/-

Kaleege Pheasant, very fine cock, £8

1	Mogador Partridge, hen,	only	25/-
1	,, Dove, cock,	,,	10/-
2	Pairs Bronze winged Pigeons,	pair	£8 very fine birds.
10	English Wood Pigeons,	each	10/-
1	,, Tame Jackdaw	,,	5/-
1	,, Sparrow Hawk	,,	5/-
2	Carrion Crows from Scotland	for	£2
2	Hen Silver Pheasants,	each	30/-
2	Cock Silver Pheasants	,,	25/-
1	pair Eard Pheasant	for	£8
	Splendid talking Grey Parrot	„	£15
	List of words on application.		
5	pair Bare necked Francolins,	pairs	£4
1	pair Coqui Francolins	pair	£4
1	pair Spot-billed Toucanets	„	£8
1	pair Peruvian Jays	„	£8
5	Military Macaws, each	£8	
1	Cuban Amazon,	£4	
2	Blue-fronted Amazon Parrots, each,	£4	
1	All Green Conure,	for	£1 10s.
1	Indian Rock Parrot	„	£2
3	Namaqualand Doves	each	15/-

NOTICE. NOTICE.

South African and other Rare Birds.

GREAT BARGAINS.

Cash with Order only.

No. 1 Lot.—1 Pair very fine Violet-eared Waxbills; 1 Pair very fine Blue breasted Waxbills; 1 Pair very fine Black-cheeked Waxbills. £4 carriage paid.

No. 2 Lot.—One Melba Finch; One Dufresnes Finch; One St. Helena Finch; One Queen Whydah, £3 10s. carriage paid.

No. 3 Lot.—One Bengalese; One Avadavat; One Blackhead One Yellow-rumped Serin. £2, carriage paid.

No. 4 Lot.—One Necklace Tanager; One Tricolor Tanager; One Green Sugar Bird.. £3 10s. carriage paid.

Lots only, and Cheque with Order.

3 South African rare Thrushes	each	£4
4 South African Glossy Starlings	"	£3
1 South African Lears Bulbul	"	£5
1 South African Large Sunbird	"	£10
1 South African Small Sunbird	"	£6
These 2 Sunbirds may be a pair.		
4 Pair African Bare-necked Francolins	pair	£5
1 Pair African Coqui Francolins	"	£5
20 Pairs African Violet-eared Waxbills	"	£3
20 Pairs African Black-cheeked Waxbills	"	£1
20 Pairs African Blue-breasted Waxbills	"	£1
3 Pairs African Melba Finches	"	£3
Green Singing Finches	each	15/-
Buntings, very rare	"	30/-
Tricolor Tanagers	"	30/-
Necklace Tanagers	"	25/-
Blue Tanagers	"	20/-
Hen Scarlet Tanager	"	25/-
Sugar Birds	"	20/-
Rufous-backed Mannakins	"	20/-
Yellow-shouldered Whydahs	"	25/-
Large Yellow Weaver	"	10/-
Chestnut Finches	"	25/-
Bengalese, only 4	"	15/-
Avadavats, only 6	"	10/-
Blackhead Mannakins, 4	"	5/-
Spice, only 4	"	5/-
Dufresnes Waxbills, very fine	"	20/-
2 Nonpariels, Cocks, showing colour	"	40/-
Large number of African birds, Goldfinches, Buntings, Chaffinches, Serins all on view.		

JOHN D. HAMLYN.

Hamlyn's Menagerie Magazine.

Edited by JOHN D. HAMLYN.

Published Monthly. Annual Subscription 10/- post free.

Interesting gossip and news from all quarters.

taken to prevent a similar occurrence, and for several years the young have been vaccinated for this disease.

Early in 1919 a number of those that had been vaccinated some months before, died. After a careful investigation by a Veterinarian from the Bureau of Animal Industry, evidence was discovered that indicated the presence of this dreaded disease. It was then decided to vaccinate the entire herd both young and old with a recently developed culture that is believed by the Bureau of Animal Industry to be a certain preventive.

The herd was rounded-up October 7th and vaccinated on the 8th and 9th, and about ten days later were vaccinated the second time. The Bureau of Animal Industry furnished the vaccine and sent two of their Veterinarians—Doctor Plank and Doctor Wallman—from the Helena Montana office to do the work.

Of the total herd (355) ninety were calves.

During the progress of vaccination, five calves and one old cow were injured in handling and died later. This was unavoidable and a remarkably small percentage of loss when considering the great difficulty and dangers to be encountered in handling a large herd of semi-wild buffalo.

During the past year the Society has received a number of books, photographs and a valuable Indian buffalo lance, donated to the Society by Col. Charles Goodnight of Goodnight, Texas. This lance was formerly the property of the noted Comanche Chief Quana Parker, who used it not only for killing buffalo but also in murdering human beings. Colonel Goodnight states that he was well acquainted with Quana Parker, who in 1877 left the Reservation near Fort Sill, Indian Territory, and made a break with three hundred of his tribe for their former home in western Texas. They camped in the Palo Duro Canyon, near Colonel Goodnight's ranch, and during this time Chief Quana related the history of the lance to Colonel Goodnight. Among other things, he stated that it was with this lance that he killed the two men who were sleeping in the wagon the morning of the famous fight at Adobe Walls. A good account of this fight, which occurred between the Comanches and a party of white men—buffalo hunters—is found in the "Life of Billy Dixon of Adobe Walls," who was one of the party of buffalo hunters. Dixon is the man who shot Chief Quana Parker in that fight,

but the bullet was turned by striking the Chief's large buffalo powder horn.

MARTIN S. GARRETSON,
Secretary.

Report of the Zoological Service, Giza Zoological Gardens, Egypt.

1.—ZOOLOGICAL SURVEY OF EGYPT.

The most important feature of 1919 was the completion by Mr. M. J. Nicholl of a hand-list of the birds of Egypt; enumerating 437 forms. This much needed work was published by the Government Press in February, 1920. Preparations are being made for in the future expanding this hand-list to a book giving a full account of the birds of Egypt.

Mr. Oldfield Thomas, F.R.S., of the British Museum, kindly examined and identified a small collection of mammals from Egypt and Sinai. Among these he found two new species of Desert Mice which Major Flower had collected near the Sinai-Palastine frontier. Mr. Thomas described these forms as *Gerbillus floweri* and *Gerbillus bonhoteri* ("Annals and Magazine of Natural History," Series 9, Vol. III, June 1919, pages 559, 560).

Dr. E. Hartert, of the Tring Museum, described the Egyptian Partridge as a new subspecies, from information and specimens collected by Mr. M. J. Nicoll, under the name of *Ammoperdix heyi nicoli* ("Bulletin, British Ornithologists' Club," No. CCXLV, Vol. XL, December 1919, pages 3, 4).

2.—GIZA ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.

The Gardens were open as usual every day throughout '19. Owing to the suspension of the tramway service for three months and seven days and other affairs, visitors from Cairo had unusual difficulties in reaching the Gardens; nevertheless, the visitors numbered 285,917, a number which has only been surpassed in three previous years.

No very important additions were made to the menagerie, but the collection was kept up to its usual standard, and the general health of the animals was very good, in spite of continual difficulties in obtaining forage and the necessity of using substitutes for varicous items of food.

General A. R. Hoskins presented a very nice Chita from Somaliland, and Captain E. H. Buxton a Hermit Ibis from Birijek on the Euphrates.

3.—GEZIRA AQUARIUM AND FISHERIES

51,659 people visited the Aquarium, a number only surpassed once in former years.

Owing to shortness of staff available for collecting, the number of live fish on exhibition fell rather below the usual standard.

A commencement was made with a research laboratory for Egyptian food fishes, run jointly by the Zoological Service and the Coastguards and Fisheries Service.

In January 1919, at the kind invitation of El Miralai G. F. G. Purvis Bey, Director-General of Coastguards, Major Flower and Mr J. L. Bonhote accompanied him, El Kaimakan K. Dowson Bey, and Lieutenant G. Paget on a short expedition in the Red Sea to investigate fishery grounds and oyster beds.

Major Flower was appointed in 1918 the Government delegate on the Council of the Sultanic Hydrobiological Institute, which has its aquarium, museum, laboratory, and library at Alexandria.

4.—GIZA ZOOLOGICAL MUSEUM.

The Curator, Mr. J. L. Bonhote, left Giza on leave on July 23, and resigned his appointment as from December 8, 1919.

The Curator's work was taken over by the Director, assisted by Mr. M. J. Nicoll. Mrs. S. S. Flower also very kindly gave voluntary assistance by working at the Museum, and among other things, re-spirited where necessary the whole of the large collection of mammals, reptiles, fish, etc., which is preserved in alcohol.

By arrangement with the Entomological Department of the Ministry of Agriculture, it was agreed to hand over the collection of insects to that Department, and Mr. G. Storey took over the collection on behalf of Dr. Lewis H. Gough, the Director. This saves the overlapping of work between the two departments and it is obviously better to have one collection as complete as possible in Cario than to have two collections, one in Cario and one in Giza, each possibly more or less incomplete.

For similar reasons arrangements are being made to hand over the collection of marine

invertebrates to the Sultanic Hydrobiological Institute at Alexandria.

A large central natural history museum for Egypt situated at Giza would perhaps be the ideal plan, but for the present there is neither the building nor staff available.

The most striking addition to the exhibition gallery made during 1919 is a life-size wooden model presented by the late Mr. E. W. Buckley of a Nile perch (*Lates niloticus*), which he caught with rod and line on Lake No in the Sudan, and calculate the weight of as being 199 lbs. (or 90·26 kilogrammes).

General Notes.

By JOHN D. HAMILYN.

THAT a Hindu has been found dead, says the Exchange, in the Lions' cage at the Bombay Zoo, and two lions were snarling over his remains. It is believed that he committed suicide, as the cage was completely protected.

At a Ceylon elephant drive two keepers were crushed to death by wild elephants. The efforts to capture them was witnessed by the Governor and the principal residents of the island.

THAT the "New York World" states that on June 20th last 7,000 Park elk were killed by market hunters last year when these tame animals strayed from the Yellowstone sanctuary. If it were not for these National Park systems, our wild life would soon become exterminated. The Board of Management of the United States Park Systems has shown great enlightenment and courage in dealing with this problem. The work needs the support and encouragement of the American public, and should be supported and helped as much as possible. It is up to Congress to pass the necessary laws and provide the necessary funds. Think of the sportsmanship of platoons of hunters who fired volleys into massed herds of elk which strayed from this Government park and then shipped the carcasses away by the car-load. We believe that it would be wise for humanitarians to aid the Government and Congress in making the park system more efficient in protecting wild life.

THAT the "East London Dispatch," South Africa, states:—

News of a thrilling adventure on the Zambesi, in which a party of well-known people from Johannesburg were involved, says the evening paper, is just to hand. A fortnight ago Mrs. Froude and her two children, Lady Ross Skinner and Dr. "Billy" Davies, left on a trip to Victoria Falls. One day last week the party indulged in a motor launch excursion to Kandahar Island, which is $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles above the Falls. Apparently the party were on their way back to Livingstone when a hippo charged full tilt into the boat and made an enormous hole in the stern, while the brass rails that run along the sides were twisted out of shape. The water rushed in, but fortunately everyone kept very calm. It is believed that the boat was not far from the Livingstone landing stage at the time, and this point the waterlogged boat managed to reach. There is no doubt that the whole party had a narrow escape.

THAT the Council of the Royal Zoological Society of Ireland met on Saturday, the President, Sir Frederick Moore, in the chair.

During the week the following animals were added to the collection—a pair of capybaras, two sooty monkeys, a green monkey, a ring-tailed coati, a curasson and an elephant tortoise.

It is many years since an elephant tortoise has been on exhibition in the Dublin Gardens, and the specimen just acquired is a very fine example from the Seychelle Islands. It weighs 84 lb. On board the ship which brought it over it received the name of "Betty."

During the week, in spite of bad weather, 8,027 visitors entered the Gardens.

THAT some wonderful monkeys have lately arrived at the Zoo, and should be seen by everyone. The Colobus and Gibbons are fine specimens. I trust they will survive the English winter.

THAT the Secretary of the African Society, the Imperial Institute, South Kensington has issued the following memorandum to its members:—

It is felt by the Council of the African Society that if an effort were made at the present time by members of the Society to

enlarge the membership it would be most successful—more especially as British responsibilities in Africa will be widely increased in the near future.

There exists apparently an impression that membership of the Society is confined to those closely connected with Africa. The Society, however, would welcome as members all who take any interest in Africa, and it is suggested that you might point this out and so gain recruits.

It is now an accepted idea that our dependancies in Africa are a trust—that Britain is a trustee. If this is so, every Briton is a trustee and should take an interest in Africa. This interest can be aroused and stimulated by joining the Society and reading its Journal. With a largely increased membership the utility of the Society would be greatly increased, and the Journal would become for all what it is now only for a comparative few, the recognised medium of authoritative information on Africa and its problems.

This is an opportunity for the African Society not only to encourage the study of native languages and customs, matters geographical and ethnological, valuable as these are in administration, but to shape the Society into the most potent and vivifying factor in economic and industrial development.

The Subscription is only one guinea per annum at present, though for members joining after 1920 it may have to be raised to a guinea and a half. It entitles Members to the free receipt of the Journal, and to attend all Meetings, Dinners, etc., of the Society.

THAT a Glasgow paper reports it has suddenly been discovered that London is without an aquarium, and a writer thinks that it is a reproach that the capital of the Empire, almost among the great cities of the world, does not possess a representative collection of fishes.

In its plans before the war the Zoological Society proposed to establish an aquarium at Regent's Park at a cost of £25,000. It could not be done now for less than £75,000, and the Society has no funds to meet the expenditure.

THAT the "Times" reports that the Zoological Society gave the Committee of the recent Jamboree 10,000 tickets at less than half price

for the use of Boy Scouts and their friends, and presented them with 1,000 Sunday tickets to be used chiefly for foreign scouts.

The Jamaica Boy Scouts have presented to the Society, a sharp-nosed crocodile, a young animal, still pale olive-green with black spots. It is a native of Central America and the West Indies. The South African scouts have presented a black-backed jackal, one of the most distinctive of African animals, ranging from the Red Sea to the Cape. It is a brightly coloured creature, with the back and the end of the tail black, and the sides red. Sir R. Baden-Powell has deposited as a jackal what turns out to be a fine example of the South African fox (*Canis chama*), a much rarer animal, of which the Gardens has not had a specimen for many years. Its very large ears and bushy tail distinguish it fairly well from jackals, but the most definite characteristics are in the scull and teeth.

THAT the "Yorkshire Weekly Post" has a most interesting series of natural history notes. They are well worth reading.

THAT 'John Daniell' the famous gorilla is paying weekly visits to the Zoological Gardens Regents Park. He is a wonderful animal. My advice is 'Go and see John.'

THAT a fighting fish has just arrived at the Zoo from Siam.

THAT a most interesting account of the Californian Sea Lions is given in Charles F. Hodder's book "The Channel Islands of California." Mr. Hodder states—

The feature which will really amaze the wanderer among the Channel Islands is the tameness of some animals. To meet a bull sea-lion, weighing approximately half a ton, on the main avenue of a town, fifty feet from the water, is a possibility of a startling nature yet I have seen Old Ben, the head of the South Catalina sea-lion rookery, on Crescent Avenue, Avalon, surrounded by tourists who snapped their cameras at him with impunity.

At that time Ben could be induced to come ashore when the lure was a fat, long finned tuna. But one day he climbed upon the wharf, coming entirely up the steps, following the man with a fish. Then some unreasonable person made threatening demonstration; Ben started for the steps, lost his

hold, slipped and fell, smashing them and wounding himself. For a long time he remembered this, but gradually his faith in human beings has returned, and the men call him up on the boat landing of the float or out upon the beach, by showing a succulent fish.

When very hungry he has permitted himself to be touched or patted by one of the fishermen. He is good-tempered and never attempts to bite. But he is a savage-looking animal and makes a very clever imitation of a ferocious beast.

A few years ago many of the sea-lions were killed by vandals, but laws were passed and for a number of years the sea-lions have been protected. When not feeding, the sea-lions pass the time within a few feet of the beach, sleeping or playing, the females and young leaping from the water and going through various tricks of interest to the amazed looker-on.

It so happened that I was upon the sands one day when no sea-lions were in sight; and upon my asking a boatman where they were, he began to whistle as if calling for a dog, and to call "Here Ben!" repeating the call several times, whereupon out from among the anchored boats appeared not only Ben, but two large bull sea lions, which must have weighed half a ton each, followed by two or three smaller females. The boatman tossed some pieces of albacore fish into the water, which the sea-lions dashed for. Not ten feet away floated several boats containing spectators.

When the fish was disposed of, the boatman took a large albacore by the tail and walked down the beach, calling the sea-lion, Ben, by name. The animal responded at once coming inshore with a rush, followed by two others. The boatman gradually retreated up the beach, the huge animals following him, in their clumsy waddle resembling gigantic slugs more than anything else; finally they took the fish from the man's hands.

The rookery where the animals make their head quarters is about two miles distant. The sea-lions are so tame there that they can be approached with ease, and are the constant objects of amateur photographers who visit the locality in yachts and boats of various kinds.

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